

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Jon C. Sesso, on March 18, 2009 at 10:00  
A.M., in Room 102 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Jon C. Sesso, Chairman (D)  
Rep. Duane Ankney (R)  
Rep. Dennis Getz (D)  
Rep. Bill E. Glaser (R)  
Rep. Ray Hawk (R)  
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)  
Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D)  
Rep. Roy Hollandsworth (R)  
Rep. Galen Hollenbaugh (D)  
Rep. Llew Jones (R)  
Rep. Dave Kasten (R)  
Rep. Bill McChesney (D)  
Rep. Walter McNutt (R)  
Rep. Robert Mehlhoff (D)  
Rep. Penny Morgan (R)  
Rep. Bill Nooney (R)  
Rep. Carolyn Pease-Lopez (D)  
Rep. Don Roberts (R)  
Rep. Cheryl Steenson (D)  
Rep. Dan Villa (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jon Moe, Legislative Branch  
Samuel Speerschneider, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 627, 3/16/2009; HB 637,  
3/16/2009; HB 644, 3/16/2009; HB  
646, 3/16/2009

Executive Action: HB 637

00:00:26 Chairman Sesso

**HEARING ON HB 637**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:00:41 Rep. Robyn Driscoll (D), HD 51, opened the hearing on  
HB 637, Diverting a portion of the hospital bed tax to  
fund mental health services.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:01:01 Rep. Driscoll

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 637**

00:01:06 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Glaser moved that **HB 637 BE TABLED.**  
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**HEARING ON HB 644**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:24 Rep. Jon Sesso (D), HD 76, opened the hearing on  
HB 644, Funding for national folk festival.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:10:56 George Everett, Main Street Uptown Butte  
00:15:04 Ray Compfull, Bozeman

00:16:42 Josh Beck, Butte, Montana  
00:19:37 Barbara Miller, Economic Developer, Butte  
00:22:33 Julie Berg, self  
00:23:28 Tony Preite, Director, Department of Commerce  
00:27:54 Steve Yeakel, self  
00:29:58 Mike Halligan, Washington Corporation

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:31:10 Rep. Mehlhoff  
00:31:58 Rep. Steenson  
00:32:09 Rep. Sesso  
00:32:38 Rep. Morgan  
00:32:53 Rep. Sesso  
00:33:58 Rep. Morgan  
00:34:12 Rep. Sesso  
00:35:03 Rep. Morgan  
00:35:13 Rep. Sesso  
00:35:55 Rep. Morgan  
00:36:28 Rep. Sesso  
00:36:34 Rep. Hawk  
00:36:51 Rep. Sesso  
00:38:37 Rep. Henry  
00:39:16 Ms. Miller

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:40:14 Rep. Sesso

**HEARING ON HB 646**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:41:32 Rep. Wanda Grinde (D), HD 48, opened the hearing on  
HB 646, Energy efficiency fund for K-12 schools.

**EXHIBIT** (aph60a01)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:48:41 Ed Huick, Vice Chairman, Northern Plains Research  
Council

**EXHIBIT** (aph60a02)

00:53:23 Katie Kemmick, Billings

**EXHIBIT** (aph60a03)

00:56:12 Sam Grassy, Helena

00:57:52 Eric Burke, MEA-MFT  
00:58:55 Jason Miller, United Carpenters  
00:59:33 Ron Devlin, Northwestern Energy  
01:00:07 Mike Penfold, Our Montana  
01:00:43 Jessie Luther, Montana Contractors Association  
01:01:15 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon  
01:01:55 Sarah Cobler, Montana Conservation Voters  
01:02:32 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Center  
01:02:59 Brianna Randall, Clark Fork Coalition

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

01:03:40 Lou More, Department of Environmental Quality  
01:05:17 Joe Triem, Architecture and Engineering, Department of  
Administration

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:05:53 Rep. Kasten  
01:07:16 Mr. Devlin  
01:08:39 Rep. Kasten  
01:09:21 Mr. Devlin

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:10:10 Rep. Grinde

**HEARING ON HB 627**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:11:28 Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D), HD 85, opened the hearing on  
HB 627, Procedure for review of expenditure of federal  
stimulus funds.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:13:19 Rep. Morgan  
01:13:51 Rep. Hiner  
01:14:40 Rep. Ankney  
01:14:46 Rep. Hiner

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:15:20 Rep. Hiner

**Announcements:**

01:15:30 Chairman Sesso

01:21:33 Rep. Glaser

01:21:46 Chairman Sesso

01:22:45 Rep. Glaser

01:23:08 Chairman Sesso

01:23:13 Rep. Glaser

01:23:20 Chairman Sesso

**ADJOURNMENT**

01:24:16 Adjournment: 11:30 A.M.

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Samuel Speerschneider, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT ([aph60aad.pdf](#))**